DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 227 881 IR 050 203

TITLE	Conservation Section. Management and Technology Division. Papers.
INSTITUTION	International Federation of Library Associations, The Hague (Netherlands).
PUB DATE	Aug 82
NOTE	72p.; Papers presented at the Annual Meeting of the International Federation of Library Associations (48th, Montreal, Canada, August 22-28, 1982).
PUB TYPE	Reports - Descriptive (141) -- Speeches/Conference Papers (150)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC03 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	Continuing Education; Foreign Countries; *International Organizations; *Internship Programs; Laboratories; Library Associations; *Library Education; *Library Materials; Postsecondary Education; *Preservation; Professional Education
IDENTIFIERS	Archivists; Canada; Italy; *Restoration; United States; USSR

ABSTRACT

Papers on the conservation of library materials and the training of conservators and restorers which were presented at the 1982 International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) conference include: (1) "Conservation Training in Schools of Library and Information Science and as Continuing Education in the United States," an overview of American conservation training by Josephine Riss Fang with a case study of such training at Simmons College; (2) "Organization of Restoration and Conservation of Library Stocks in the USSR," a report on the development of these activities by Z. P. Dvoriashina; (3) "Training of Restorers," a description by Z. P. Dvoriashina of book restoration training at art educational institutions and in libraries in the USSR; (4) "Conservation Organization and Activities in Italy" by Maria L'Abbate Widmann, which describes Italian research laboratories and other institutions involved in book conservation; (5) "Organization of Conservation Services in the United States: A Case Study in Regional Cooperation," a report by Ann Russell on the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC); (6) "Conservation Organization and Activities in Canada: An Overview" by Joyce M. Banks, which describes various Canadian conservation programs; and (7) "The Training of Conservators in Recognized Training Programs in the United States," a review by Doris C. Freitag of the academic and practical experience programs for training conservators in the United States. (ESR)

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INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS

CONSERVATION SECTION

MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

PAPERS

IR050203

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IFLA 48th Conference 1982

Division: Management and Technology

Section: Conservation

159/CON/8-E
106-RE

Conservation Training in Schools of Library and Information Science and as Continuing Education in the United States

by

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Conservation Training in Schools of Library and Information Science and as Continuing Education in the United States

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Abstract:

An overview of the role of conservation training in the education of librarians in the United States is presented. The many aspects and forms are discussed, such as, within established courses, as special courses, and as continuing education offerings for practicing librarians. Current trends and developments are highlighted and some of the recent literature described. As a case study, the experience at Simmons College is shared, where a conservation course was introduced in cooperation with the Northeast Document Conservation Center, a regional conservation facility.

Susan Swartzburg and Susan White in the 4th edition of the Preservation Education Directory found in 1981 that 85 % of the accredited library schools are now offering "courses, units or workshops on various aspects of preservation." This shows that "the profession has become increasingly aware that librarians are responsible for the care as well as the development of their collections and that these two professional responsibilities go hand-in-hand."

The Directory gives brief, but adequate descriptions of courses offered and reveals the great variety of approaches: Three library schools offer conservation as specialized programs with several courses. They are: (1) Columbia University, School of Library Service, whose new program will be discussed by Doris Freitag Lateron in this session, (2) Catholic University, School of Library and Information Science, and (3) University of Maryland, College of Library and Information Services.

Separate courses in conservation are taught at 20 library schools as part of the regular curriculum. Another 37 library schools deal with

conservation within other courses offered.

Outside library schools, there are 25 colleges and universities offering courses on or including conservation.

The inclusion of the topic conservation in library schools is a fairly recent development. Encouragement was given by the formal recommendation of the National Conservation Advisory Council in 1978, that "The highest priority should be to increase the awareness of librarians and archivists about various aspects of conserving the materials in their custody. The training of conservation administrators, who must be equipped to deal with organizational, administrative, and bibliographic control matters and at the same time administer the technical and craft aspects of an institution's conservation program, may become a specialty within library science or archives management requiring intensive courses in conservation." (Report of the Study Committee on Libraries and Archives: National Needs in Libraries and Archives Conservation. Washington, D.C. The Council, 1978, p. 45-46). The growing literature reflects the seriousness of the problem and need for librarians to be better informed. The attitude towards preservation as a separate function has changed to the concept that preservation today is intimately involved in many library functions, and particularly should be taught as a component of collection development and collection management. The growing emphasis on preventive conservation measures environmental control, planning library building, and disaster planning. All types of library materials have to be considered, such as non-print material, photographs and audio-visual materials. Librarians need the educational training to help them make the appropriate decidions affecting their collections and concerning conservation microfilming. They have

to be familiar with resources and know when and where to turn for professional help in conservation

As an example of a conservation course may I share with you our experience at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Simmons College in Boston. Our course is offered jointly with the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) of Andover, Massachusetts and we are very fortunate in utilizing library school faculty and conservators and conservation administrators. This course, offered since summer 1981, has been very successfull, and will be offered in fall 1982 for the 4th time.

As to the origin of the conservation course, we are indebted to George Cunha, then Curator of the Boston Athenaeum, who from 1969 on invited our classes in Technical Services to visit his conservation workshop and observe his staff at their various activities. These field trips became a popular part of the course and the students gained a new awareness of their future responsibility as librarians and of the urgency and need for action for proper conservation management. After the Northeast Document Conservation Center (at that time New England Document Conservation Center) was created in 1973, as the first regional conservation center in the United States, with George Cunha as its first director, we took the classes to the new and larger equipped facilities. It soon became apparent that there was further need and interest to expand the conservation offering into a more structured and in-depth form. We started to offer Continuing Education Institutes with George Cunha and the NEDCC staff in 1976. More and more alumni and students requested a separate course. With the help of George Cunha we prepared an Outline and proposal to our faculty and administratio, to convince

them of the importance of this topic and also of the sound fiscal feasibility. Finally, the course was first offered in summer 1981 and the response was very promising.

The time was indeed ripe for a separate conservation course: The leadership role of the Library of Congress Preservation Office, the abundance of conservation literature (e.g. the 1981 issue of Library Trends, a required text for the students), the new program at Columbia University under Paul Banks, and for the first time a serial publication for librarians, CAN (Conservation Administration News) to keep librarians informed and act as a current awareness tool and information exchange. All these factors combined justified the need for a separate course and not just one class session and one field trip.

By the time our course was announced, George Cunha had relocated in Kentucky. However, his successor as director of the NEDCC, Ann Russell, was most cooperative and we developed together with her renowned professional staff at the Center an effective schedule. It is difficult to cover in one semester basic knowledge needed by library and archive administrators, and effectively combine theory and praxis and achieve a workable balance of lectures, hands-on sessions, demonstrations, and field trips, but I believe we found a workable solution.

The title of our course is "Conservation Management for Libraries and Archives" and is described as a basic course in the fundamentals of preventive and restorative conservation for librarians and archivists. Its objectives are (1) to provide participants with the information necessary for them to plan and establish in-house programs of preventive

maintenance in their own institutions in order to minimize damage to collections; (2) to provide participants with sufficient knowledge in the theory and techniques of physical treatment to enable them to supervise effectively their institution's preservation microfilming programs and commercial binding requirements; and (3) to enable them to collaborate on a one-to-one basis with professional conservators and restorers in plans for the salvage and rehabilitation of the more seriously damaged books, documents, prints, broadsides and other research materials in libraries and archives.

The course is taught with the cooperation of the Northeast Document Conservation Center, particularly Ann Russell, Director, Shirley Ogden, Associate Conservator, and Mildred O'Connell, Field Service Director. The course consists of lectures, demonstrations, hands-on sessions, and two visits to the Northeast Document Conservation Center, where Mary Todd Glaser, Senior Conservator, explains the work of the paper laboratory, Sherelyn Ogden book restoration, Gary Albright, Assistant Conservator, photographic conservation, and Andrew P. Raymond, archivist and records specialist, conservation microfilming.

Two hands-on sessions, both demonstration and practice, deal with surface cleaning, proper handling of library material, testing paper for acidity, testing for solubility of inks, paste making, mending with Japanese tissue, mending with heat-set tissue, polyester encapsulation, and the demonstration of making phase boxes.

Lectures and audiovisual presentations cover some of the following areas: Historical survey; information sources; the nature of library and

archival materials; the deterioration of library and archival material; preventive maintenance (environmental control; housekeeping and storage; in-house procedures that are safe); repair and restoration (paper; hand binding / restoration binding). There is a session with a commercial binder so that students are aware of the differences and learn to evaluate bindings. Further topics covered are Surveying an institution for conservation needs; disaster and disaster control; budgeting for conservation and sources for funding; national and international conservation planning; new developments in library and archives conservation, such as the use of new technology as carried out by the Library of Congress testing and the Canadian Conservation Institute.

The students are given an extensive bibliography with recommended readings and a package prepared by the Northeast Document Conservation Center with useful mimeographed materials, and any other recent publications, such as the newly revised "Standards for Library Binding" of the Library Binding Institute (1982). The students are expected to do extensive readings on their own and to carry out one project of their choice or prepare a research paper. They all acquire knowledge of the available pertinent resources and where to find information, and we hope they will continue to consult these information sources throughout their professional career.

The student evaluations for this course have been consistently highly favourable, and one enthusiastic comment was : "I believe conservation should be a <u>required</u> course for librarians." Both the NEDCC and Simmons College have announced the course in the professional journals so that practicing librarians and archivists have an opportunity to enroll. After each

semester we evaluate the course in order to incorporate improvements and any new developments in the field. The students who took this course, will use their knowledge as practicing professionals, as library/archive administrators, and some become so interested in conservation that they wish to acquire further experience. All will be better equipped to work in the library/archival profession. As I emphasized, our cooperation with the Northeast Document Conservation Center made the quality of our course possible and we are in a unique position due to the vicinity of the Center. We are hopeful that a new generation of professionals will not only be well versed in computer applications to library processes and information services, but will be also equipped to take measures to arrest the deterioration of our heritage.

We must continue and increase our efforts that not only 85% but all of our library and information science programs in the United States will have courses in conservation and preservation as an integral component of professional education so that no-one graduates without at least some basic knowledge and awareness of available resources.

Besides conservation as part of the formal professional library education, there is a great need for continuing education for the practicing professionals to keep them informed of new developments in the field.

Library Schools continue to play an active role in this area. At Simmons College we have been offering a number of Institutes on various aspects of conservation. Professional associations at the national level offer further educational opportunities. For instance, the Society of American Archivists, which will be meeting in October in Boston and will have extensive sessions on conservation, and also conducts separate

workshops. Regional, state and local professional groups have been inviting conservators to conduct short-term workshops of one- or two-day duration. Some large institutions arrange for similar workshops for their staff. An increasing number of professional conferences include the topic as part of continuing professional awareness and education, and two annual national conferences on conservation have so far been held under the auspices of Microform Review Publishers, and the 1981 Allerton Park Institute was devoted to this topic. Major academic and research libraries are increasingly involved in conservation awareness. With the support of foundations, e.g., Harvard University arranged an International Preservation Microfilming Conference in fall 1981, and a number of publications of the Association of Research Libraries provide practical guidelines for conservation management.

Further support is provided through the work and publications of the very active and successful Preservation Section of the Resources and Technical Services Division of the American Library Associations, which was founded in 1980 and is steadily growing.

Library Schools have to do more than merely follow the current professional needs. In cooperation with professional conservators, they should take an initiative to plan and anticipate future developments. Research should be encouraged and supported at educational institutions in many of needed areas, for instance to develop educational guidelines, research in collection management and conservation, in various theoretical aspects, etc. We live in challenging times and educators must prepare librarians and information scientists for the decisions they will have to make.

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    Preparing for Emergencies and Disasters (# 69; 1980)
    Planning for Preservation (# 66; 1980)
    Theft Detection Policies (# 37; 1977)
    Preservation of Library Materials (# 35; 1977)

J.R. Fang, 1982

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22-28 août 1982
Fédération internationale des associations
de bibliothécaires et des bibliothèques

networks
48th IFLA General Conference – Montréal
August 22-28, 1982
International Federation of Library
Associations and Institutions

1982

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116/CON/6-E
118-RE

48th IFLA Session, Montreal, August 1982
Division on Management and Technology
Section on Conservation

ORGANIZATION OF RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION OF LIBRARY STOCKS IN THE USSR

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Moscow, 1982

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Organization of restoration and conservation of library stocks in the USSR

K.Dvoriashina

Problems of preservation of stocks were always a matter of great concern for employees of libraries, archives and museums and the characteristic development here is that today they are solved on a complex basis. Currently conservation and restoration are inconceivable without wide application of natural sciences, contemporary analytical methods and sound knowledge of the structure of materials, their nature, composition, change of quality in the process of storage and use. Practical restoration is an applied craft that uses the achievements of chemistry, physics, biology and different branches of these sciences. Scientific research has become a necessary and obligatory stage in practical restoration as it is only on their basis that the right methods and means of restoration of each material with all its own distinctive properties can be determined. Yet in spite of all this, the skill, intuition and professional experience of the restorer continue to be one of the most important factors for the successful performance of restoration operations.

In the USSR the development of the system of restoration agencies already began in the thirties. In that period restoration shops were organized in the Main Archives Department (MAD) and in the Laboratory for the Conservation and Restoration of Documents of the USSR Academy of Sciencies (LCRD, USSR AS). This period is also marked by the official initiation of

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hygiene and restoration operations in the two leading libraries of the country: the State Lenin Library (SLL) and the Saltykov-Shchedrin State Public Library (SPL). In the next decade similar sections and divisions were established in the State Public Historical Library in Moscow and the Library of the USSR Academy of Sciences in Leningrad. The main function of the hygiene and restoration divisions was the practical support of preservation of stocks through the performance of operations which call for the use of special materials, equipment, instruments and the appropriate training of personnel. Besides this, the staff of these divisions provided a consultation service both inside and outside the library.

In subsequent years the system of restoration divisions in libraries, belonging to different ministries, substantially expanded. Today all State republican libraries, many university and some research libraries (the Library for Science and Technology and the Library of Foreign Literature), libraries of the different divisions of the USSR Academy of Sciences and libraries of the Academies of science of the Union republics have hygiene and restoration units. Groups for restoration of stocks have been created in many regional libraries. Restoration of old manuscript monuments is accomplished in institutes of manuscripts of Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan. Conservation and restoration of documents, graphic works, pergamen and leather bindings have been organized in the All-Union Research Institute for Restoration (ARIR), the All-Russian Art Research Restoration Centre (AARRC) and in the following large museums of the country: the State Hermitage, State Tretiakov Gallery, State Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts, State Russian Museum, State

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Historical Museum, State Museums of the Moscow Kremlin and in the museums and galleries of the Union republics. As a rule, restorers work in all literary and memorial museums. Similar operations are performed in the State archives too. Every system regargless of its affiliation (USSR Ministry of Culture, Academy of Sciences, Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union or a Union republic) has a leading agency which acts as the methodological centre for the restoration units of its department. The SLL performs the duties of a methodological centre for all libraries of the system of the USSR Ministry of Culture, while the SPL acts as a methodological centre for libraries under the jurisdiction of the RSFSR Ministry of Culture. The Research Library of the Moscow University operates in a similar capacity within the system of university libraries of the cluntry. The LCRD conducts activities involved with restoration among academic libraries. The All-Union Research Institute for Document and Archives Economy (ARIDAE) is responsible for the methodological management of restoration operations performed in State archives. The guidance of these operations in museums of the Union republics is the responsibility of the ARIR and in museums of the Russian Federation it is provided by the AARRC.

Methodological management includes a systematic consultation service, training of probationers, control of the quality of restoration operations and the introduction of new and advanced methods and materials. One of the forms of methodological work is the regular production of methodological aids,

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instructions and practical recommendations, which are sent to restoration units of the appropriate departments. The BLL organizes scientific and practical seminars the aim of which is the sharing of professional experience and the provision of practising restorers with information of the latest scientific developments in the field.

The methods of restoration of library stocks were in the early period mostly based on the experience of archives and museums with due regard for foreign practice. Yet this was not merely blind imitation for this work had in it the spark of creativity. Nevertheless this situation did not last long and in the early forties scientific research was launched in the laboratories of the SLL, SPL and the Main Archives Department for Archives (MAD).

The ever growing practical importance of the preservation of cultural values led to the creation of new research centres for conservation and restoration and the expansion of already existing ones. Today there exists an expansive system of restoration divisions (within which research laboratories function) and independent agencies which conduct similar research. The aforementioned research collectives have appreciably grown, their staff has increased and the thematic range of research has expanded.

Research laboratories operate in the State Library of Foreign Literature (SLFL), the LCRD of the USSR AS, the Laboratory for conservation and restoration of documents attached to the Institute of Marxism-Leninism of the Central Committee

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of the CPSU, the institutes of manuscripts in Georgia and Azerbaijan, the Research libraries of the State iuniversities in Moscow, Vilnuis and Tartu, and in the ARIDAE.

In addition to these scientific collectives mention should be made of the ARIR, State Hermitage, State Historical Museum, State Russian Museum, Ukrainian and Lithuanian departments for restoration of monuments, which investigate problems of restoration of museum exhibits. Each laboratory has accumulated a substantial amount of its own published studies. Transactions of the SLL, SPL, LCRD, SLFL, ARIR and ARIDAE are issued regularly.

The objective of research is identified with the development of the main problem - the securing of longevity of books and documents after their restoration. The activities of these laboratories are constantly being directed and corrected by the purely practical requirements of stock preservation. The unity of scientific and pragmatic interests finds expression in the participation of research laboratories in the restoration of stocks, a factor which promotes the improvement of scientific investigations.

The necessity of in-depth study of subjects led to the development of different scientific aspects and the drawing of specialists in physics, chemistry, biology and in numerous branches of these sciences into this research.

In a number of cases researchers from specialized institutes of the papermaking, tanning, chemical and microbiological industries take part in the scientific development of certain problems. The fact that practically not a single material,

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which is a compenent of a library connection, is ignored by researchers, speaks of the high level of restoration today.

The specific character of each large depository, stipulated by its history, climatic factors, and conditions of storage and use of stocks, led to the specialization of each laboratory. Groups of questions, which have formed historically and which are characteristic of the appropriate scientific collective, clearly reflect the leading trends of scientific activity and interests of each institution.

The laboratory of the SLL developed in such a way that it now deals with problems of conservation and restoration of leather bindings and pergamens on a larger scale than do the other laboratories. Here conservational lubricants for the leather of bindings, based on both animal and mineral oils, suitable for the conservation not only of dark leathers, but of coloured and light ones too, have been developed. Research, dealing with the restoration of pergameneous manuscripts and bindings (softening of pergamen, removal of deformations and transparencies, loosening of cemented manuscripts, cleaning and removal of spots of different kinds), has been conducted here. The second direction of chemical research work concerns questions of conservation and restoration of paper-base materials. This aggregrate of questions includes the following: the increase of the strength of decrepit and fragile papers; removal of spots and soils of different origin; strengthening of texts, written in non-water-resisting inks and graphite pencil; creation of durable papers for restoration operations;

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parting of chalk-overlay leaves of books, which have stuck together because of water or surplus moisture in the air; investigation of properties of natural and artificial polymers with the aim of using then in restoration.

Biological studies in the SLL are conducted in the field of entomology and mycology. The investigation of problems, connected with the damage of library stocks by insects, was conducted exclusively by the laboratory of this library. By now the species composition of pests has been exposed and their biological characteristics and harmfulness in conditions of book depositories have been investigated. At present the Laboratory is developing methods of determining pests in book stocks in early stages of contamination and a system of measures for the prevention of appearance of insects and their extermination.

Mycological research consists of the selection of the most effective disinfectants for restoration glue, paper, leather and pergamen.

The SLL also concerns itself with the improvement of methods of optical research of materials and photorestoration.

The most characteristic aspect of the research activity of the SLL is the mechanization of restoration processes. The well-known principle of restoration of missing parts of sheets of paper with the help of paper pulp on a specially designed sheet-paper machine led to the creation of a restoration sheet-paper machine ROM-3, which is an automatic production line. The main results of mechanization of restoration processes are associated with the raising of efficiency of labour and the im-

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parting of qualitatively new properties to materials simultaneously with the improving of the aggregate of already existing properties.

Work involved with the conservation of paper by covering it with an impregnated polymer film with the aim of raising its durability is being conducted. The second direction in which the SLL takes the lead is the investigation of the mycoresistance of library stocks, determination of the biblogically substantiated conditions of storage, forecasting the possibility of contamination of stack rooms and the development of disinfection methods.

The research laboratory of the SLFL specializes in improving methods of cleaning, bleaching and neutralization of papers, aiming to combine these processes with disinfection and strengthening procedures. Besides all this, the complex study of problems of preservation of colouring agents of marble paper of fly leaves and bindings and the investigation of dyes for the dyeing and tinting of restoration. leatherholds a prominent place in the Laboratory's work.

The LCRD of the USSR Academy of Sciences is the leading laboratory for photorestoration and use of ionizing radiation in the research of monuments of the written language and of book-printing.

The problem of preservation of texts written in ink, printing ink, china ink, pencil, etc., is being successfully solved in the ARIDAE. Simultaneously the durability of present-day mediums of writing and copying is tested and means of conservation of physically insecure texts are developed. The Laboratory

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also gives much attention to the preservation of microfilms.

The study of properties of different natural and synthetic polymers with the aim of finding out how they can best be used in restoration, particularly for the reinforcement of the colour layer of miniatures on pergamen, is being continued in the ARIR. In 1980 a research laboratory was set up in the State Historical Museum, which will mostly conduct chemical research.

Many problems of preservation are being solved successfully owing to the coordination of scientific research activities. The SLL coordinates the work of libraries belonging to the Ministry of Culture. In the future it is planned to unite the efforts of national organizations and the research laboratories of other socialist countries for the solution of the most important problems of conservation and restoration of library stocks and the organization of expansive information support in the field.

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48e conférence générale de l'IFLA – Montréal
22-28 août 1982
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117/CON/7-E/106-RE

48th IFLA Session, Montreal, August 1982

Division of management and technology

Section on conservation

TRAINING OF RESTORERS

DVORIASHINA Z. P.

Division for Hygiene and restoration

State Lenin Library

Moscow, 1982

ТБЛ ОП 1

Training of Restorers

Z.Dvoriashina

In our country much attention is paid to the ensuring of preservation of collections of museums, archives and libraries. It is emphasized in the Law of the USSR "On the Preservation and Use of Monuments of History and Culture", approved in 1976, that monuments of history and culture, connected with historical events in the life of the people, the development of society and the State, which have historical, scientific or artistic value, are protected by the State. In this connection the USSR Ministry of Culture has established control not only over the organization of registration, correct use and copying, but over the creation of the necessary conditions for the preservation of unique, rare and valuable collections of books, manuscripts and archival materials held in libraries and museums of the country. Apart from this, the Law envisages the development of suggestions and recommendations concerned with the equipment of libraries and museums with restoration and conservation technique necessary for the conservation of manuscripts and printed matter. Restoration divisions and groups functioning within libraries, literary, memorial and regional museums have been expanded and consolidated. The development and expansion of restoration divisions calls for a highly qualified staff of restorers, who can cope with the entire complex of restoration and conservation activities. The lack of qualified specialists impeded the wide introduction of new methods

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of conservation and restoration and this is why the problem of expanding activities, involved with the training of restorers, is an extremely urgent one.

At present the following art educational institutions train painters-restorers: Moscow Art School; V.A.Serov Art School in Leningrad; State Repin Art Institute of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture; Kiev State Art Institute and the Academy of Arts of the Georgian SSR. The curricula of art/restoration departments of these institutes take into account local requirements (the specificity of collections and the formed practice of restoration in the regions) and envisage the broad specialization of future restorers. In the process of learning, students acquire knowledge in the field of restoration of pictures, painted on different bases, study applied physics, chemistry, the fundamentals of biology, paleography, mythology, etc. Questions of preservation of monuments, their description and analysis, and the course of specialized documentation and photography hold a prominent place in the curricula. Students of these institutes take an annual summer course in specialized institutions under the guidance of highly qualified restorers.

Questions of preservation of library collections are covered by the course on the organization and management of librarianship, which is offered by the library faculties of institutes of culture and the Moscow Institute for History and Archives. Librarians, with a general educational background, who wish to specialize in the field of restoration of collections,

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study under the guidance of experts-restorers. Initial practical training is individual and this is why the number of highly qualified specialists is still small and only large book depositories have a full staff of restorers.

The Institute for the improvement of professional skill of personnel of cultural and educational institutions, created within the system of the USSR Ministry of Culture has in collaboration with the Division for hygiene and restoration of the State Lenin Library developed a specialized refresher course, which is offered to restorers. Restorers, who work in State republican and large regional libraries, are obliged to take this course every five years. The duration of study is one month. Lectures in special theoretical disciplines are read by the leading specialists of the SLL. Restorers are supplied with information on the results of different studies, which have been conducted in the last five years in research institutions. Reviews of domestic and foreign literature on hygiene, disinfection, disinsectization, conservation and restoration of library stocks are also read. Much attention is paid to the improvement of conditions of storage of library collections and the introduction of prophylactic measures, which are directed towards the prevention of contamination of book stocks by pests and microscopic fungi.

Restorers are practically taught optimal methods of conservation and preservation, which have been tested in the leading restoration organizations and which are recommended for wide use. Currently attention is focused on mechanized methods

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of restoration, which substantially raise labour productivity.

The tasks of the Institute for the improvement of professional skills include not only the raising of the level of knowledge of the restorers and their familiarization with new methods and technique of conservation and restoration, but the examination of their training. On finishing the one=month course the restorers take theoretical and practical examinations, which display their mastery of different methods of work. The State Lenin Library acts as the All=Union methodological centre for problems of preservation of book stocks. It exerts its influence mainly over the State libraries of the Union republics, which in their turn lend methodological assistance to regional and district libraries.

One of the main conditions for the successful activity of the SLL in this direction is the coordination of methodological work with libraries belonging to different departments and research institutions, which deal with questions of preservation of cultural values. To these institutions pertain the following: Saltykov=Shchedrin State Public Library, All=Union State Library of Foreign Literature, Laboratory for the conservation and restoration of documents of the USSR Academy of Sciences, All=Union research institute of document and archives Economics, All=Union research institute for restoration, research libraries of the Tartu and Vilnius universities, institutes of manuscripts of the Georgian, Azerbaijan and Armenian Union republics. Coordination is realized in the field of scientific research, preparation and publication of methodological and instructive documentation, organization of confere-

ГБЛ ОП 1

nces and seminars. Attention is also given to the training of restoration personnel and the raising of their professional skill.

The State Lenin Library offers in=house training to restorers of other libraries and renders systematic consultative aid in all aspects of conservation, restoration and storage of library materials. Apart from this, the SLL organizes scientific and practical seminars in different regions of the country the programmes of which are similar to those of the Institute for the improvement of professional skills. These seminars are organized on the basis of a large library. The holding of such a seminar in a region makes it possible to attract a wider circle of restorers not only from large libraries, but from museums and institutes of manuscripts, too. Training is based on book stocks, which are typical of the libraries of the region. The specific character of the region is reflected not only in the properties of materials of library stocks but in the characteristics of their damages and storage conditions. Scientific and practical seminars have been held for the republics of Middle Asia and Kazakhstan, and in 1982 - for the republics of Caucasia.

Collections of scientific works, containing the findings of research, conducted by the SLL and other restoration organizations, collections of practical recommendations and methodological aids are regularly published for restorers, working in libraries, archives and museums of the country.

All these publications contain information on the material and technical equipment of restoration divisions.

TEXTOR 1

Today the tendency to speed up the exchange of information, stipulated by the endeavour to realize new scientific developments more operatively, is observed. This led to the production of issues of express-information, collections of abstracts and surveys dealing with the most urgent problems in the field. Besides all this, the results of some research projects are published in specialized journals and thematic collections.

A number of large libraries, laboratories and institutes, which deal with questions of preservation of cultural values, have wide experience in research and practical work. All-Union scientific seminars are organized systematically with the aim of pooling information and the expansion of business contacts. Such seminars were held on the basis of the Saltykov-Shchedrin State Public Library (1975) and the State Lenin Library (1976 and 1980). These seminars promote the quick introduction of new means and scientifically grounded methods of conservation and restoration as not only researchers, but restorers of many libraries, museums and archives take part in the work of the seminars. At the same time restorers get to know how work is organized in the leading restoration institutions. In keeping with the long-term plan, scientific and practical seminars will be organized every three years.

In order to improve the organization of restoration activities and, foremostly, to strengthen control over the quality of work and level of training of restorers, the USSR Ministry of Culture has introduced certification. According to the "Act on the Restorers" only individuals, who have taken a special

[illegible]

course or have received in=house training in the leading restoration organizations of the country, are allowed to work without supervision. Restorers, who have experience of working on their own, are granted a qualification category in accordance with the established qualification characteristics by the Committee for certifying restorers of the Department for fine arts and preservation of monuments.

Restorers of library stocks are granted the appropriate qualification category on the basis of their work with materials, which have artistic value. The qualification characteristics have been developed in conformity with four=class tariff scale:

IV class - III category

III class - II category

II class - I category

I class - the highest qualification

Qualification characteristics determine demands made of the restorer as regards his theoretical and special knowledge within the limits of each category. Thus the restorer of the III category must know the main things about the restoration of materials with a paper base. The restorer of the II category should be familiar with the characteristics of manuscript and printed documents, the technology of paper=making, properties of different kinds of paper and materials used in restoration, disinfection and disinsectization, and optimal conditions for the storage of library materials. Demands made of the restorer of the I category are higher; he must know how the properties of paper depend on its composition, be familiar with prescriptions, and know how to prepare solutions, for the removal and

[illegible]

fixation of dyes, methods of determining glues and sizing of different kinds of papers. The restorer with the highest qualification guides the work of restorers of all qualifications and of trainees from other institutions. This is why the volume of his knowledge includes information on the properties of papers, texts, dyes, leather and parchment of all kinds, history of the binding craft, history of book printing and artistic book design.

Qualification demands determine the degree of independence displayed by the restorer in his work in keeping with the category given to him. These demands contain descriptions of the main, most frequently encountered processes of work, with which the restorer of each category must be familiar in keeping with the restoration task, and methodological instructions. All kinds of restoration and conservation operations on all library materials, including unique volumes, incunables, manuscripts and publications and manuscripts on parchment, original posters, engravings and other materials are performed only by the restorer of the highest qualification. And though the restorer of the I category knows numerous methods of work, he does not have the right to work with particularly rare and valuable books. Restorers of the lower categories deal with simpler methods and usually work with books, journals and newspapers, which have mechanical damages and which are printed on contemporary paper.

Apart from having the ability to perform the most typical tasks in accordance with his category, the restorer must know the quality of restoration processes, be aware of safety pre-

cautions and be able to rationally organize his work.

The qualification characteristics envisage that the restorer with a higher qualification must have the knowledge and skill for performing all operations envisaged by the characteristics of the restorer belonging to a lower category.

Restorers work out the restoration task specifying all processes, prescriptions and materials, which is then approved by the head of the restoration division. In cases when particularly rare and valuable materials are to be restored, the task is approved by the restoration council. Besides this they draw up other documents concerned with restoration, specified by the instructions and the Act.

The granting of a category to a restorer or its change is accomplished in accordance with the degree of complexity of operations performed by a restorer on his own or under the guidance of more experienced specialists, envisaged in the qualification characteristics. A restorer has the right to apply for a higher qualification category only after he has taken a course of in=house training in leading restoration institutions or restoration divisions of large libraries of the country. Nevertheless, in order to receive the title of restorer of the highest qualification, the applicant must have a higher special or a secondary art education and a ten=year record of practical work. For individuals, who do not have a special education, not less than a fifteen=year record of work in the restoration field is needed. For restorers of other categories demands include a specialized higher education or secondary art education, but as regards the record of practical work, restorers of the I category must have a record of not less than 6 years, of the

[illegible]

II category - not less than 4 years and restorers of the III category - not less than 2 years. The Committee can give a qualification without additional examinations on the basis of appropriate documents, which are in advance examined by the Restoration Council, to restorers who work in large restoration institutions. In cases when a restorer has not worked in the restoration field for over three years, he is obliged to take the certification examination.

The Committee has the right to demote the restorer or deprive him of the right to work in the field of practical restoration in cases when his knowledge and practical skill are not up to the standards of the appropriate category or in cases, when the restorer has violated the accepted technology, which can damage the subject of restoration.

The restorer is held responsible for the unfounded and poor performance of restoration and conservation operations and for the use of untested methods and inedaquate registration of conservation and restoration processes. When the Restoration Council or the senior officers of the restoration division find that the restorer has failed to perform the work on a high professional level they are obliged to inform the Certifying Committee about it and have the right to raise the question of demoting the restorer.

Individuals, who have passed the certification examination, receive a certificate, which indicates the speciality, qualification category and period of validity of the document. After five years the restorer must take the next certification examination.

ГБЛ ОИ I

The existing system of training restorers makes it possible to provide large restoration centres and restoration divisions of State republican libraries and museums of the country with highly qualified specialists. Nevertheless, the number of materials needing restoration is incessantly growing, mostly due to the flimsiness of contemporary paper, and in this connection it is planned to expand the training of restoration personnel in higher and secondary special educational institutions of the country.

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IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE MONTREAL 1982
Division: Management and Technology
Section : Conservation

102/CON/5-E
118 – RE

Conservation organization and activities in Italy

by

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T R I E S T E
I T A L Y

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Meeting 118

CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES IN ITALY

Since nineteenthirtyeight in Italy preservation and restoring of library materials was mainly a Government concern through ICPL, Istituto Centrale per la Patologia del Libro (Central Institute of Book Pathology). This was thanks to Alfonso Gallo who first understood the importance of library collections not only for their historic and artistic values but also for being fragile objects which for their very nature can be easily damaged by careless and even routine handling.

The Institute's original and efficient scientific organization, based on an interdisciplinary project and the importance of its activity, was recognized in 1975 with a new Government decree which established a new Ministry called Ministero per i Beni Culturali, also including ICPL.

In the last four decades research program and restoring techniques or policies have been changed several times and greatly improved. However , since the very early years biologists and research chemists, who studied book pathogenesis, associated to their knowledge that temperature and humidity played a critical role; therefore light, high temperature, and moisture were carefully analized.

In order to keep a record of temperature and level of humidity it's been issued a monthly card. Now more than twelve years all State libraries are regularly sending in their graphics of climatic conditions on their library storage and reading areas. These statistics are kept under control by ICPL, which regularly and systematically checks and revues the data received and, based on such evaluations, more investigations and experiments are carried out in order to find solutions to the various problems.

The internal structure of the ICPL includes at present, six research laboratories, a department for documentation, training and scientific information, and an administrative department.

The stated activities purposes of each research laboratory are as follows:

1) - Research laboratory on environmental factors and hygiene

It investigates, according to its concern, building and housekeeping standards of libraries and annexed restoration workshops, (e.g. suitability of premises, internal building and storage materials, materials used for forniture, encluding shelving, lighting, both natural and artificial), security measures, fire and theft protection, ecc., control and adjustment of environmental factors (heat, humidity, air pollution, light), even in connection with safety of library personnel and library users.

On request, memebers of the laboratory are available to give their advice and their skills on physical conditions of storage and building restoration measures fit to meet conservation requirement.

The laboratory scientists investigate then the appropriate methods to be used against infection and infestation of books and libraries, studying the book also as potential conveyer of infectious diseases. (A great enhancement in this field was due to the urgency to provide prompt action on a large scale, with proper disinfection and disinfestation vapors, during the Florence flood. Nowadays the laboratory scientists are in a position to easily apply new safe and adequate techniques against book infection and infestation, using special safety measures to avoid intoxication, fire, explosion and occupational risks).

2) - Research laboratory on development of conservation policies and procedures

The scientists study and solve bibliological problems connected with restoration and investigate the evolution of book structure both from an historical, aesthetic and technical point of view.

Restoration of rare and precious books are undertaken too, in special cases, by the laboratory.

The laboratory scientists investigate and test also materials and techniques for the preservation of modern library collections taking into account that at present exist many different library mediums: books, prints, photographs, slides, microforms, records, tapes and films.

3) - Research laboratories on biology, technology and physics

Important research and product testing has been undertaken by their scientists in their own fields, and reports thereon have been circulated to all libraries.

The laboratories on biology and technology worked recently closely together to determine permanence property of several card boards produced by domestic and foreign papermills against micro-organisms attack.

This survey, now completed, is chiefly of interest in connection with the well known decrease in quality of modern card boards used for restoration and binding of books.

As soon as it will discover on the market which papermills are willing to manufacture card boards meeting the required specifications and standards it is the purpose of ICPL together with the Ufficio Centrale per i beni librari e gli Istituti Culturali (State Central Agency for libraries and cultural Institutes) to oblige statal and commercial restoration work-shops, working for libraries, to utilize only this kind of permanent/durable materials.

The research laboratory on biology, has begun recently an original investigation on alterations to photographic materials caused by microbic infection; a special survey has been then conducted on some calotypes (or talbotypes) since the Istituto Centrale per il catalogo - Archivio delle Arti, requested their advice on calotypes preservation techniques.

This research conducted jointly with the laboratory on the development of conservation policies and procedures has proved to be useful since restoration of this type of medium was not done in the past.

Also the problem connected with the use of adhesives is still under investigation and screening done by all the laboratories of ICPL. In order to solve this problem ICPL will soon start to work with the Istituto Donegani of Novara to find out how the most satisfactory materials might be synthesized.

4) - Department for documentation, training and scientific information

In addition to its preservation and restoration activities the ICPL has assumed an important role in the education of library personnel in the administration of preservation programs in their institutions. The training section has been coordinating and arranging all the seminars that ICPL has promoted, on request, for Regional library personnel.

To confirm its role of further training center ICPL established in 1977, also the first biennal course on conservation and restoration of library materials.

The curriculum was as follows:

- Bibliology and history of bookd decoration and illustration
- History, manufacture and composition of library materials
- Basic informations on chemistry
  " " on biology
  " " on physics and photography
- Environmental problems connected with book conservation
- Restoration techniques (practical in-service training based on direct experience mainly during the second year).

The number of attendants has been limited to 12; a quarter of which being reserved to foreigners.

This Department circulates also through its quarterly Bulletin informations on all searches and investigations conducted by ICPL scientists and on the final issues of the same, to all statal or Regional Offices involved in library materials conservation. In 1973 ICPL stopped to publish the Bulletin and began to publish it again in 1978.

To the training and documentation Department belong also a special Library, a Museum and a Documentation Center which since 1957 has been collecting positive microfilms and slides of old manuscripts belonging to State libraries.

On request of the Council of Europe, ICPL organized in April 1980 a Seminar on Conservation of Archival and Library records. Italian and foreign teachers and students unanimously agreed that the utmost interest of the course was based on the possibility to get exchange and comparison of informations about procedures and techniques used in various European countries.

The proceedings of this Seminar will be published inItalian in Vol. XXXII of the a/m ICPL Bulletin, which is now in print. The Council of Europe, on its turn, will then publish the English translation of the same.

As mentioned before, only extremely rare and precious books can be restored directly at the ICPL. Conservation facilities have been therefore established, under its control, as separate ICPL sections, for in-house conservation programs within the most important Italian State libraries. It is then ICPL care to train conservation technicians and conduct information and periodically further training seminars for the library staff.

State Libraries, Regional and Local Authorities and religious Institutions however turn for restoration of library materials also to commercial workshops in this field.

In this case, especially when funding for restoration has been Governmental, the items restored have always to be submitted for examination and approval to the a/m ICPL.

Besides this, whenever it appeared advisable, technicians and laboratory experts of commercial restoration workshops have been kindly invited to follow at ICPL further training programs on such advancements in techniques of screening and treatment of library materials which might be of benefit to the profession and on external developments which would bring improvement to the conservation program.

Restoration of rare and precious books, has been also many times committed to Religious restoration workshops. (Many benedictine and basilian convents have been in fact for centuries administering and supervising workshops, with the necessary facilities and staff, to restore, preserve and maintain the ph sical conditions of books, prints, maps, manuscripts and similar documentary materials of historic, archival or cultural interest).

Even in such cases , regional and local authorities involved, request before ICPL opinion on the quality of the procedures rendered by the laboratory experts of these workshops.

Some Regions are now working also towards the creation of regional conservation centers, which might afford to undertake cooperative restoration projects at reasonable costs, cutting out commercial agencies.

Committees of scientists have then been instituted and charged to provide an historic and phylosophic background to the problems of preservation of library materials, analysing rare books to be restored, also from this point of view.

For instance, the Region Emilia Romagna has scheduled, a short time ago, an interesting initiative, which is still underway, for the examination from a structural point of view of Cesena's Malatestian manuscripts.

This survey is being conducted by an equipe formed by manuscript specialists, paleographers, art conservators and restorers who studied a special record questionaire which includes 700 items. Each document is analized and can establish its origin and so obtain important direct or indirect following informations: who has manufactured it; when and where and why; who has studied,

commented on, or annotated it; who has wasted it or put out of use; with which other books it has been transferred to us, through which handlings.

All these certainly appear to be interesting initiatives but for the time being they are still in their early stage.

At the moment ICPL remains the main focal point in national conservation programs, both for the importance of its researches and interdisciplinary surveys and its supervisory role and authority.

Finally, librarians, conservators and conservation scientists find useful to have in it a clearing house where to turn to get instructions for conservation, reviewed for their accuracy, and be so able to uniform restoration procedures all over the national territory.

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1982

IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, MONTREAL 1982

Division: Management and Technology

Section: CONSERVATION

89/CON/4-E
118-RE

ORGANIZATION OF CONSERVATION SERVICES IN THE UNITED STATES

A CASE STUDY IN REGIONAL COOPERATION

By

Ann RUSSEL, Executive Director
Northeast Document Conservation Center

Meeting 118
SI yes/no

89/CON/3-E

Organization of Conservation Services in the United States:

A Case Study in Regional Cooperation

by Ann Russell, Executive Director
Northeast Document Conservation Center

The problem of deterioration of library collections in the United States is one that almost seems to defy solutions. This is because of the vast scope of deteriorated materials and because of the critical shortage of trained conservators capable of treating these materials. New York Public Library estimates that half its books are already too brittle to be handled by researchers.

Raw data from a recent survey at Yale University Libraries indicates that 86% of books have acidic paper (i.e. pH of 5.3 or lower). A landmark study by the Barrow's Research Laboratory in the 1950's suggests that half the book paper manufactured in this country before the middle of this century will not last to the end of the century without at least some conservation attention.

The problem is compounded by the scarcity of training opportunities for professional conservators. At present, there are fewer than 50 certified paper conservators in the entire country. The establishment of a conservation training program at Columbia is a most encouraging development, but Columbia will not graduate its first class of conservators until 1984.

There is no national conservation laboratory in the United States, and no comprehensive national program or coordination. At present, only one region has a cooperative conservation laboratory which meets the needs of libraries and other research institutions: the Northeast.

The Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC), in Andover, Massachusetts, was founded in 1973 to serve the many hundreds of libraries that cannot afford to build an in-house conservation laboratory or to hire professional conservators on their own staffs. Given the critical shortage of resources, a cooperative approach to conservation problems was seen to be more promising than an institution-by-institution approach.

Initial support for NEDCC was provided by the Council on Library Resources and the New England Library Board. NEDCC was viewed as a prototype, and its founders anticipated that other regions would follow the New England example, developing facilities of their own. But, by and large, this has not happened, and NEDCC has, because of its unique expertise, has been called upon to serve a growing geographic area. Within the last two years, two new states, New York and New Jersey, have joined with the six original New England states as members of NEDCC.

NEDCC's primary function is to serve as a restoration facility. The Center has well equipped laboratories for conservation of paper and books, and a staff of professionally trained conservators. Examples of materials recently treated at NEDCC include: the State Charter of New Jersey from King Charles II of England; an original Amendment to the Bill of Rights, signed by John Adams; a logbook from the U.S.S. Constitution; early baseball photographs; etchings documenting the construction of the

Panama Canal; and architectural drawings from the design competition for the Lincoln Memorial. More recently the Center has added a preservation microfilming service.

The Center charges for laboratory services at cost, based on the amount of labor, the cost of materials, and a pro-rated share of overhead expenses. It was anticipated from the start that the Center would be self-supporting through fees for services. This goal has essentially been achieved, although outside support is still required for the Center's free disaster assistance program and educational services.

The Center has always recognized that prevention of deterioration is an important part of conservation, as well as restoration. It is committed to helping librarians do a better job of caring for collections through environmental controls, and proper storage and handling methods. With the help of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Center recently established a Field Service office, adding to the staff a full-time Field Service Director, whose primary responsibility is performing on-site surveys of library storage facilities and conservation needs. She also coordinates a variety of educational programs and seminars on conservation management.

In its nine year history, the Center has served nearly 1,000 different institutions through its laboratory work; and through its consulting services and seminars, it has reached several thousand more. It has an annual budget of $700,000, and a full-time staff of 25.

NEDCC's success demonstrates that a regional approach to conservation services can be viable. But unfortunately, no other region has replicated NEDCC's model. In vast areas of the country, libraries do not have access to the services or expertise of a professional conservation facility. The

only exception is the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts in Philadelphia. This relatively new center specializes in treatment of art on paper and archival materials; it does not yet have a book conservation program and does not contemplate adding a microfilming service.

There are many reasons why it is difficult to establish a new conservation center. These include high start-up costs; scarcity of qualified personnel; the difficulty of developing an active clientele, especially in areas of low population density; and the difficulty of achieving economic self-sufficiency.

In my opinion, any national strategy for improving conservation services in the United States should include strengthening of existing regional conservation centers and establishing new ones in areas which are under-served at present. It should also include:

- continuing education and consciousness raising for librarians and administrators.
- training more book and paper conservators.
- research and dissemination of technical information.
- influencing the publishing industry to use acid-free paper for publications which have permanent research value.
- identification of a national research collection and development of bibliographic coordination between institutions in determining what to preserve.

It is encouraging to note that at least some progress is being made on all of these fronts, and that librarians are more conscious of deterioration problems than ever before. As Pamela Darling has observed,

we do not have a national preservation program; but we are moving toward a nationwide program slowly, unevenly, but with gathering momentum. The strength of this new movement is based largely on countless local preservation efforts.*

* Darling, Pamela W. "Preservation: The National Challenge," Speech for Theatre Library Association Preservation Management Conference, April 9, 1982.

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IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, MONTREAL 1982

Division: Management and Technology

Section: CONSERVATION

56/CON/13-E
118-RE

CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES IN CANADA: AN OVERVIEW

by

Joyce M. BANKS, Rare Books and Conservation Librarian,
National Library of Canada (Ottawa, Canada)

Meeting 118
~~51-yes~~/no

Canadian libraries and archival institutions are responsible for the preservation of a large part of Canada's historical and cultural heritage. This responsibility brings with it a variety of conservation problems, of which the most serious are those of acid paper and the lack of qualified conservators in sufficient numbers to treat deteriorating collections on the scale required if those collections are to survive. Our Canadiana holdings are those most gravely threatened. The major part of our literary and archival heritage dates from Confederation in 1867. Thus, most of these materials are on paper which either is embrittled or will become embrittled. Most earlier materials are also deteriorating through acid decay because of their exposure to atmospheric pollution.

Librarians and archivists in all parts of the country have recognized curatorial responsibility for conservation which goes beyond adequate storage and handling of materials, but response with curative conservation programs is uneven, mainly because of fiscal restraints. In 1976 the National Library of Canada conducted a conservation survey of special collections in major Canadian libraries. The response was excellent, but the survey demonstrated that the level of conservation awareness far exceeded the practical application of restoration programs.

There is, however, a great deal of conservation activity in Canada. While no national conservation policy has yet been articulated, many programs of national importance have been undertaken, and advances of international significance have been made in conservation technology and techniques, resulting from experimental and pilot projects conducted in Canada. Many libraries and archival institutions in Canada have long been involved in programs, both to protect and to treat their own collections, and to offer advice and assistance to

others. There are excellent conservation consultative services available in Canada from a number of agencies devoted to the promotion of good conservation policies and programs. Several in-house conservation laboratories have been established, and more are planned, although there is a shortage of trained conservators.

The problem of acid paper must always be of foremost importance among Canadiana curators and conservators. Apart from standard preventive conservation procedures and traditional restoration methods, Canadians have approached this problem with two main conservation techniques: preservation microfilming and mass deacidification.

Since deterioration due to embrittlement has made a large body of Canadiana all but inaccessible, a number of preservation microfilming programs have been undertaken in Canada to record information held on papers of ever-increasing fragility and to protect weakened documents from frequent handling. In the case of Canadian newspapers the impossibility of preserving original documents has made urgent good preservation microfilming programs. The Canadian Library Association undertook a massive and an important program to film Canadian newspapers in English and in French, called Canadian Newspapers on Microfilm. The Ontario Council of University Libraries, in co-operation with private enterprise, also undertook a large program called the Ethnic Newspapers Microfilming Project, in which about 500 ethnic language newspapers printed in Ontario between 1832 and 1973 were filmed. The National Library provided full access to its extensive newspaper collection for these projects, and undertook a further project to film ethnic language newspapers from all parts of Canada between 1974 and 1978. A variety of regional projects have also been undertaken by other agencies to film ethnic language newspapers.

Among other major preservation microfilming projects, intended to protect original documents as well as to make information available, are two of such significance to the preservation of the national heritage that they merit special attention. In the spring of 1974 the Peel Bibliography on Microfiche project was begun by the National Library of Canada with the financial assistence of the Devonian Group of Charitable Foundations. It was completed in 1979. The materials filmed are essential to study in the fields of historical, economic and social research for the Prairie Provinces of Canada. Most are rare or scarce, mainly because of the acid condition of the paper on which they are printed. Extreme care was practiced in filming these valuable items, and conservation guidelines were prepared governing all aspects of their handling. Some 3500 titles were filmed, and more than 40 institutions subscribed to full sets of the fiche. Each subscriber received more than 10,500 fiche, and more than 420,000 fiche were prepared to complete the project. This highly successful undertaking was to become the model for a program of larger proportions.

The Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproduction was established in March of 1978 by the Canada Council, on the recommendation of the Consultative Group on University Research Libraries, which had identified the weakness of the fabric of Canadiana, and its swift and continuous deterioration, as the most serious problem facing university research libraries in Canada. Established as a non-profit, independent corporation, the Institute was granted an initial five-year contract and an endowment of two million dollars. The first phase of the Institute's program entails the filming of monographic Canadiana published prior to 1901. The Institute has identified as its second area of concern periodicals and serials of the same period, excluding newspapers. A proposal has been made that the Institute be funded to continue its work in this area. Future programs will cover twentieth century materials.

By March of 1983, approximately 60,000 titles will have been identified, located and described. Of these, 27,000 will have been filmed, and 17,000 catalogued and distributed to subscribers. About 13,000 titles will be available for selective acquisition.

While these projects will preserve and make available an enormous range of information, and will protect thousands books from repeated handling, they will not halt acid decay in the papers of the items filmed. If any attempt is to be made to preserve in original format at least part of the Canadiana heritage, deacidification must be the first step in the salvage process. Traditional deacidification methods are totally inadequate for the restoration of such a huge body of material; only mass deacidification can have any impact on a problem of such great size, and one which is daily increased with each new publication.

Records Conservation, a facility shared by the Public Archives of Canada and the National Library of Canada, has an operational, in-house mass deacidification system, which is safe and effective. It is called the Wei T'o® Nonaqueous Book Deacidification System. It was designed to treat 5000 books in seven days, i.e. about 250,000 books annually. The system is, however, still a pilot project, and its current capacity is somewhat limited, given its potential. At present about 500 books are being treated weekly, at a cost of $3 to $4 per book.

The National Library of Canada is now sending for treatment both new and retrospective Canadian Official Publications, and results have exceeded highest expectations. pH levels are excellent, and anticipated minor problems have not developed. In fact, the system has been found to enhance the strength of perfect bound books. When the capacity of the system has been enlarged, the National

Library plans to send most legal deposit materials for treatment before they are added to the collection, and retrospective materials from the general Canadiana collection will also be added to the program. New books will be given priority, to ensure that their papers are stabilized before they have time to weaken.

The mass deacidification program is only one service provided by Records Conservation for the Public Archives of Canada and the National Library of Canada. Both institutions have on-going restoration programs for the treatment of rare and scarce materials in their collections. The largest in-house conservation facility in Canada, Records Conservation has a staff of 24, qualified and equipped to undertake all aspects of restoration and repair for the treatment of works on paper and printed books. A training program for binder/conservators has been introduced, and there are at present five trainees working under the direction of staff experts.

Another advance in conservation technology which will be of value to both librarians and archivists everywhere relates to the salvage of photographic materials, a problem which had not until now been throughly investigated. A number of carefully controlled experimental projects have been undertaken by the staff of Picture Conservation, another conservation laboratory in the Public Archives of Canada. Findings of the experiments have shown that air drying without prior freezing of water-soaked photographic materials to be the preferable salvage treatment. While freezing may be necessary to slow the deterioration of soaked materials and in order to gain time, the freeze-thaw-vacuum drying used for books cannot be recommended for photographic materials. Materials which cannot be air dried immediately should be frozen, thawed and then air dried. Freeze drying is the next best alternative, but

freezing, thawing and vacuum drying above the freezing point must be avoided. Glass plate negatives made by the wet collodion process will usually not survive immersion in water, and freeze drying will shatter the images on any which do. The entire experimental process has been described in a paper entitled Disaster Preparedness and Recovery: Photographic Materials, which has been offered for publication by the authors, Klaus Hendriks and Brian Lesser.

Other federal government agencies which have fine conservation facilities include the National Historic Parks & Sites Branch of the Parks Canada Program, and the National Museums of Canada, including the Restoration & Conservation Laboratory at the National Gallery of Canada and the Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI).

Artistics and Historic Works on Paper of CCI is staffed by binder/conservators. Although this service suffered serious reverses in 1978 because of severe budget cuts, the staff of Artistics and Historic Works on Paper has assisted wherever possible in the restoration of historically significant materials, and has since 1979 co-operated with other CCI staff in a highly successful mobile laboratory program. This program has been a means of training curators in basic conservation procedures and methods. During the past three years the mobile laboratory has made 324 visits. Several types of work are done or demonstrated during a visit, such as environmental monitoring, dry cleaning, deacidification techniques, encapsulation, minor repairs, etc. To complement this program, the Province of Ontario launched a mobile laboratory service in June of 1981.

Because of the vast amount of material to be conserved, and because of the lack of conservation facilities and services, CCI has tried to encourage the establishment of in-house conservation laboratories. CCI works with provincial government agencies to assist in the preparation of conservation services development plans, and in the establishment of conservation facilities which will offer co-operative service to a number of provincial institutions, such as art galleries, museums and archives. Funding has been a major problem since libraries and archives are not normally eligible for grants under the Conservation Assistance Program, which is meant to aid museums and galleries. However, a number of new conservation facilities have opened in Canada, and more are planned.

The Council of Federal Libraries, representing some 300 government libraries, established the Committee on Conservation/Preservation of Library Materials in 1979 to assist fedral government librarians in the conservation of their collections. The Committee has conducted two conservation workshops, and has published a pamphlet, Guidelines for preventive conservation/Directives régissant la conservation préventive. A publication on disaster prevention and preparedness planning is in preparation. A conservation survey will be conducted by the Committee in the autumn of 1982 in order to develop recommendations for a conservation program for the preservation of materials of permanent value in federal government libraries.

Although the federal government of Canada has provided conservation programs and services on a national scale, provincial governments and other institutions and agencies throughout the country are also active in the conservation of our literary and archival heritage. From east to west, here are some of the highlights of conservation activities in Canada.

Conservation awareness is well developed among librarians in Atlantic Canada, i.e. the provinces of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. In 1978 the Atlantic Provinces Library Association established the Committee on Conservation of Library Materials. This committee has sponsored educational programs in conservation management, has conducted conservation surveys, and has organized workshops to train library staff in conservation techniques, and has given practical assistance in disaster recovey. A course in conservation management and techniques is given at the School of Library Science, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The Public Archives of Nova Scotia has space and equipment for paper conservation in its new Public Archives Building. In addition, some conservation work for the Archives has been done through a co-operative program undertaken by the Provincial Conservation Committee, which includes representatives from the Public Archives of Nova Scotia and other cultural agencies under the jurisdiction of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Fitness for the province.

The Provincial Archives of New Brunswick has shown a most responsible attitude in addressing problems of conservation, being among the first of the provincial archives in Canada to devote funds to a conservation program. In 1975, a Conservation Division was established, and in 1977 an in-house conservation laboratory was opened. Five of the province's major institutions plan a co-operative conservation program under which each will provide conservation service on a specialty basis to sister institutions.

In the Province of Quebec la Bibliothèque nationale du Québec has a developing preventive conservation program, and a restoration program. However, the staff of its conservation laboratory cannot undertake to do work in co-operative programs since the collection served is so extensive. Some preservation microfilming projects are being prepared for materials in both the special and general collections. Les Archives nationales du Québec established a conservation laboratory ten years ago which is responsible for the conservation treatment of materials in all archival institutions in the province. The chief conservator has co-ordinated a province-wide disaster contigency plan, including the training of salvage teams in recovery techniques.

One the oldest universities in Canada, McGill University in Montreal has many rich collections. Sound preventive conservation programs have been established there at the Osler Library of the History of Medicine and at the McLennan Library. However, all restoration is currently being undertaken by private conservators.

In the Province of Ontario the general level of conservation awareness and activity among librarians and archivists has been good for many years, reflecting the willingness of institutions responsible for important collections to provide funds for meaningful conservation programs. Most major institutions have sound conservation programs and several have in-house conservation laboratories. Many of these instititions are located in the Toronto area, including the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library at the University of Toronto, the Metropolitan Toronto Central Library, the Provincial Archives of Ontario, the Toronto City Archives, the Mills Memorial Library at the McMaster University in Hamilton, the School of Library and Information Science at the University of Western Ontario in London, and Queen's University in Kingston.

The School of Library and Information Science at the Univesity of Western Ontario offers a full conservation management course which includes practical experience for students in the conservation shop under the supervision of a qualified conservator. The School of Graduate Studies and Research at Queen's University offers a conservation course leading to the degree of Master of Art Conservation, but as the name of the degree implies, the focus of study is on fine art and museum artifacts. Three community colleges in the province offer some training in paper conservation as part of three-year courses for museum technicians.

The Toronto Area Archivists' Group, which includes many librarians as well as archivists, sponsors workshops to train curators in conservation techniques, and has organized two successful workshops on disaster prevention and disaster preparedness planning. With the Ontario Museums Association the Toronto Area Archivists' Group published the Museum and Archival Supplies Handbook, which includes a fund of conservation information.

Before 1981 only two conservation laboratories were in operation in the Prairie Provinces although there was strong interest in the preservation of the rich collections held in institutions there. Until then, the in-house conservation shop at the Glenbow-Alberta Institute, which serves the Glenbow Historical Library and Archives in Calgary, and a small paper conservation unit maintained by the Saskatchewan Archives Board in Regina provided the only restoration programs in the region. Two new shops have now been opened, a third is planned, and the conservation laboratory planned by the Saskatchewan Archives Board will be more than double the size of the existing facilities.

A major conservation laboratory has been opened by the Provincial Archives of Manitoba, which is equipped to treat both books and archival materials, under the supervision of a binder/conservator. The staff of this laboratory is cooperating in the planning of the Manitoba Heritage Conservation Centre, which will have a program similar to that being developed in New Brunswick. Restoration work will be undertaken for sister institutions by the conservation staff of the Provincial Archives, the Winnipeg Art Gallery and the Museum of Man and Nature. The chief conservator of the Provincial Archives of Manitoba is co-ordinating a province-wide disaster preparedness plan.

The University of Alberta at Edmonton has established a paper conservation laboratory to serve the Library's special collections. The Provincial Archives of Alberta, also at Edmonton, will open a large new conservation laboratory in 1985. Some 25% of work time will be devoted to the repair of documents sent by affiliated repositories within the planned provincial network. The advances in conservation services achieved and planned in the Prairie Provinces reflect the determined efforts on the part of both librarians and archivists to provide facilities for the restoration of their valuable collections.

In the spring of 1979 the Provincial Archives of British Columbia engaged a qualified conservator to establish a conservation laboratory for the treatment of rare books, maps and plans, documents, photographic materials and works of art on paper. The new laboratory opened early in 1982. In the autumn of 1981, the University of Victoria offered in its program for Advanced Studies in Cultural Conservation, a Course in Paper Conservation, designed for conservators, librarians, archivists and others responsible for artistic and historic works on paper. The course will be offered this autumn as well. It is given by the chief

conservator at the Provincial Archives of Manitoba, who has most impressive credentials, having studied both in North America and Europe.

Libraries and archival institutions in the Yukon and in the Northwest Territories are served by the mobile conservation laboratory program conducted by CCI.

The choice of activities to be described in this paper has been selective; there are many many more conservation programs in Canada.

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48e conférence générale de l'IFLA – Montréal
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The Training of Conservators in Recognized Training Programs in the United States

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Harvard University

Meeting 106

Training of Conservators
in
Recognized Training Programs in the United States

In order to understand the situation with regard to the training programs that are available today for conservators in North America, it is necessary to look back one generation.

Thirty years ago there were only a few conservators. Their areas of expertise were limited primarily to painting and paper conservation and they worked in relatively isolated labs and workshops scattered across the country. The demise of the art conservation training program at the Fogg Museum, Harvard University in 1950 resulted in a period of slow growth for the art conservation field. For a number of succeeding years prominent members of the former staff carried the high standards of the Fogg tradition to a new generation.

Conservation training at the Fogg was re-instated and formalized in 1972 with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts. Depending on previous experience the internship is a nine to eleven month intensive practical experience in the conservation and technical examination of works of art. Upon the satisfactory completion of the Internship, a certificate is awarded by the Fogg Art Museum, Center for Conservation and Technical Studies.

Six positions are open each year, two in each of three disciplines: Paintings, Works of Art on Paper, and Sculpture and Objects. Interns are encouraged to attend one Harvard curriculum course each semester.

Qualifications for eligibility:

1. At least two years of apprenticeship or formal training in conservation.
2. A B.A. degree (major in applied arts or art history is preferred).
3. Competence in one foreign language and at least one college-level chemistry course.
4. Extensive studio experience and demonstrable manual competence.

No tuition is charged for the Internship program.

However, it was the beginning of the academic training programs in the 1960's and '70's at the Institute of Fine Arts at New York University, Intermuseum Conservation Association in Oberlin, OH, New York State University program at Cooperstown, NY, and the University of Delaware/Winterthur Museum program in the United States, and the Queens University program in Canada that encouraged the greatest development of the field of conservation. Today highly specialized and sophisticated labs throughout the country are devoted to many areas of conservation which include such diversified cultural properties as ethnographic materials, textiles, wooden objects, architecture, photographs, and library and archival materials in addition to paintings, sculpture and works on paper.

Technological and scientific advancements as well as academic training programs have helped provide a basic core of knowledge for the field.

Each year hundreds of students of the highest caliber compete for the ten openings in each one of the highly successful programs.

I. New York University, Institute of Fine Arts Conservation Center.

A full-time, four year graduate program leading to a Master's degree in the History of Art at the end of two years and a Diploma in Conservation at the successful completion of the fourth year.

Requirements for admission:
A B.A. or B.S. Degree; a minimum of 12 undergraduate credits in the history of art; a minimum of 12 undergraduate credits in laboratory sciences (including one full year of chemistry) and completion of studio work.

II. The Cooperstown Graduate Program in the Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works, State University College at Oneonta and New York State Historical Association.

A three year graduate program including two years of study and one year of internship.

Requirements for admission:

1. The applicant must be a graduate of an accredited four-year college.
2. 20 semester hours, History of Art; 12 semester hours, Chemistry, or 8 semester hours, Chemistry and 4 semester hours elementary physics, 8 semester hours, Studio Art.

III. The Winterthur Museum/University of Delaware Program in the Conservation of Artistic and Historic Objects.

A three year graduate program leading to a Master of Science Degree in Art Conservation designed to train practicing assistant conservators to perform basic restoration procedures on works of artistic and historic significance.

Requirements for admission:
A B.S. or B.A. Degree with a strong background in Art History, Studio Art and Chemistry.

All the programs referred to above are joint ventures between a university or college and local cultural institutions, with each organization contributing faculty, space and equipment. Great importance is put on the internship year, which is being spent in an accredited functioning laboratory with a recognized conservator.

Here I have to mention AIC, the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works, an organization which just celebrated its 10th anniversary in May, and which has rapidly grown to a membership of well over 2000. Two of the principal purposes for which the AIC was founded were: "to encourage education, study and reseach" and "to establish, maintain and promote standards of practice." (Bylaws of AIC)

> In the early 1960's only a handful of conservators could truly say they had received training specifically for the treatment of art on paper. At the time, the monetary value of art on paper was escalating dramatically and museums, collectors and dealers were becoming increasingly concerned about the care of prints, drawings and watercolors. Many of the young people entering the conservation field were turning to a specialty in paper conservation but finding few ways to acquire training. However, anyone could hang out a 'shingle' or, put an ad in the yellow pages and become an 'instant conservator.' Unfortunately some unqualified persons did just that. This was the situation that prompted the effort to begin the certification of conservators of art and historic artifacts on paper.

Initiated first in 1981 and formally approved by an overwhelming majority of the AIC membership in 1973, the Board of Examiners for the Certification of Paper Conservators of Art and Historic Artifacts on Paper (BOE) was created.

Certification seeks to require of the conservator a basic core of knowledge and skills which are considered essential for the treatment of art and historic artifacts on paper. Certification is believed necessary to protect private and public collections from the unprincipled and untrained, and to assure institutions and private collectors that the person offering conservation services has indeed acquired the information and mastered the skills required. It is obvious, of course, that certification cannot measure depth of understanding beyond an established standard or the quality of a conservator's work. A conservator's reputation remains an important factor.

In order for a member to be elected Fellow or Professional Associate, the AIC Bylaws require that the application 'shall be supported by such evidence, examinations and investigations as the Membership Committee may require of the knowledge, skill and experience of the proposed Fellow (Professional Associate).' Certification is a useful tool in satisfying these requirements. Certification in one's area of expertise can be used to indicate that the candidate has met established criteria as may be mandatory for selection as Fellow or Professional Associate.

One definition of a PROFESSIONAL is 'a person having great skill or experience in a particular field or activity.'*

In order to absorb those conservators whose years of experience in the field qualified them within the above definition, certification under the 'established conservator (grandfather) clause'** was initiated. These people formed a body from which could be drawn informed conservators to develop plans for the future procedures of the BOA. Since that time many of the leading conservators and conservation scientists in the United States have served on the BOE and laboriously developed the certification process.

A second definition of a PROFESSIONAL is 'one who has an assured competence in a particular field or occupation.'*

An examination was selected as the mode for all future certification of conservators of art and historic artifacts on paper, whether the conservator had entered the field through an academic training program, a formal apprenticeship, or equivalent training.

Criticism of the certification program, especially when it was first introduced in 1971, was a natural, human reaction. Uneasiness, resentment, skepticism and even distrust can be expected when people are faced with the prospect of an examination. However, in the long run, after the initial proposal

and its objectives are truly understood, uneasiness is justified only in those people not fully equipped to meet an objective, impartial review of their knowledge and skills. Those who do not have the knowledge and skills should be the first to realize that they must acquire them to meet the professional standards of the field.

Many of the conservators now working in the field have achieved a certain sense of security and do not feel the need for submitting their credentials to a review: they have established reputations, positions in important institutions, academic training, etc. But reputations are not a substiture for good current practice or keeping up with advances in the field. Since an academic degree does not necessarily make a good conservator, there still is a need for a mechanism whereby a person's professionalism can be determined by objective and impartial means. Beyond the issue of any one individual's contributions to the profession. Those today who feel professionally secure and indifferent to certification should realize that it is the conservation field itself that requires certification for establishing standards. Only with such standards can the entire field achieve the status of a true profession.

Marilyn Kemp Weidner
Chairperson, BOE

* Definitions are from American Heritage Dictionary, New College Edition, 1979.

** Section V.A. Bylaws, Certification under the 'established conservator' clause. (See AIC Bulletin, vol. 14, no.1, 1973).

The realization that conservation in libraries is of great importance is comparatively recent and owes much to the efforts of such bodies as the Council of Library Resources to raise professional and public awareness.

A glance at the backgrounds of personnel active in leading positions in conservation/preservation departments in American libraries today reveals that the majority has received their training not in this country but abroad. The percentage of American-trained binders and book conservators is still very small.

Most of the foreign trained conservators have received their training in the traditional European apprenticeship system, a small segment has also had advanced professional training in college-level

courses such as are offered by a few polytechnical institutions in Europe, which combine instruction in the scientific-managerial and the craftsmanship aspects of the conservation profession.

An important step that will make it unnecessary for young Americans who want to enter the profession of library conservation to go abroad for their training was taken by the Columbia University School of Library Service with the institution of its two new graduate programs for library conservators and preservation administrators. The programs are supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, and the H.W. Wilson Foundation.

The director of the conservation and preservation programs is Paul N. Banks, a respected authority on preservation of library and archival materials.

Columbia University School of Library Service

Program for Conservators of Library and Archival Materials

The program for conservators, which is offered jointly with the Conservation Center, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, requires 72 points of course credit to be taken in three years including two summers. The students' first two years will be devoted to formal academic study of paper chemistry, the structure and t chnology of record materials, their protection and care, the history of books and printing, historical and descriptive bibliography, and the administration of conservation programs. Intensive laboratory work in the treatment of materials is required throughout both years. The summer terms following the first and second years require planned summer work projects to be conducted in cooperating libraries. The third year

consists of a two-term full-time internship in a working institutional conservation laboratory.

Upon successful completion of the course work and summer projects the student will receive the degree of Master of Science (Library Service) from Columbia University. A Certificate in Library and Archives Conservation will be awarded jointly by Columbia University and New York University after the internship requirement is fulfilled.

Program for Preservation Administrators

The program for preservation administrators can be taken either as a two-year program leading to a Master of Science (Library Service) degree and a Certificate for those entering without a graduate library school degree, or in one year leading to a certificate for those entering with a master's degree in library service. The first year of the two-year program the student will take courses in history of books and printing, historical and descriptive bibliography, library administration, and an introduction to library and archives conservation. The second year will be devoted to the study of conservation and the administration of preservation programs.

Four students began the three-year conservator program and thirteen enrolled in the first or second years of the administrator program. At full strength, the program will graduate six conservators and twelve administrators each year.

The increasingly conservation conscious leaders of the American library profession realize that the recently instituted formal

programs for the professional education of book conservators and conservation administrators will, in view of the length of these programs and the small numbers of graduates that can be expected to be produced in the near future, not be very effective in the short term. In order to benefit libraries with holdings threatened by the progressive deterioration of paper and bindings more immediately, they have therefore sought to increase the preservation manpower pool also by training much needed conservation support staff. To this end, and in order to make the best use of the new graduates of the professional programs who will be more effective in supervisory positions, a number of short-term training courses for conservation technicians have been set up in a few research libraries. They are also supported by grants from national and private foundations.

The author gratefully acknowledges permission to quote from the article "Professionalism and the Need for Certification", by Marilyn Kemp Weidner, which appeared in the February 1982 AIC Newsletter.